

Palletized Load System (PLS)



MISSION

Perform line haul, local haul, unit resupply, and other missions in the tactical environment to support modernized and highly mobile combat units.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Palletized Load System (PLS) is being deployed as the primary component of the maneuver-oriented ammunition distribution system (MOADS). The PLS consists of a 16.5 ton payload prime mover (10 x 10) with an integral load-handling system, providing self-load/unload capability; a 16.5 ton payload trailer; and demountable cargo beds, referred to as flatracks. The PLS truck is equipped with the central tire inflation system, which significantly improves off-road mobility. It maintains interoperability with comparable British, German, and French systems through the use of a common flatrack, as specified in the current quadripartite agreement. Based on congressional direction, an intermodal flatrack (with features that enhance transportability and stacking) has completed production (5,000 M1 flatracks).

The Containerized Roll-in/out Platform (CROP) is an A-frame type flatrack, which fits inside a twenty-foot International Standards Organization (ISO) container. A Container Handling Unit (CHU) will also be fielded to PLS trucks assigned to transportation and ammunition units and to forward support battalions. This enables the PLS to pick up and transport twenty-foot ISO containers without using a flatrack. The self-propelled field artillery units will receive PLS trucks equipped with a materiel-handling crane to deal with individual pallets of ammunition. The PLS-Enhanced (PLS-E) Program, now known as the Movement Tracking System (MTS), provides the PLS with GPS capability and two-way digital messaging. The MTS allows the commander to track logistics assets over the range of the Battlespace. The two-way messaging allows redirection of logistics assets as needs develop.

Truck payload: 16.5 ton

Trailer payload: 16.5 ton

Flatrack dimensions: 8 x 20 ft

Engine type: Diesel

Transmission: Automatic

Number of driven wheels: 10

Range: 255 mi

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

United Kingdom: Demountable Rack Off-Loading and Pick-Up System

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

PROGRAM STATUS

4QFY99 Approximately 3,076 PLS trucks, 1,791 PLS trailers, and 15,633 flatracks have been fielded. Alternate missions currently under development or in initial production include the following:

- Engineer mission modules for combat engineers (dump body, bituminous distributor, and concrete mobile)
- Petroleum distribution support (3,000–3,500 gallon fuel racks for retail supply, THAAD missile system and quartermaster fuel farm)

2QFY00 New procurement for the family of heavy vehicles (includes PLS and HEMTT).

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

Through FY05 Continue fielding of PLS trucks and trailers.

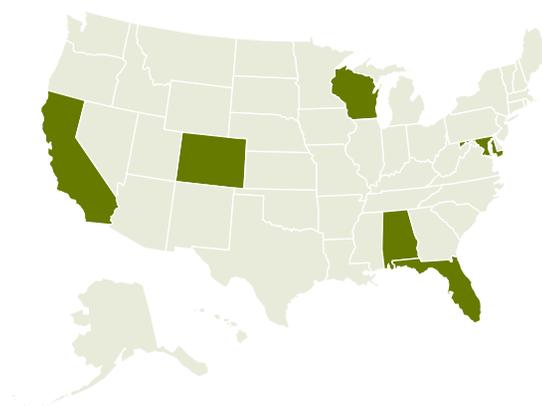
PRIME CONTRACTORS

Truck and CHU: Oshkosh Truck (Oshkosh, WI)

Trailer: Oshkosh Truck (Bradenton, FL)

CROP: Summa Technologies (Huntsville, AL); Hyundai Precision America (San Diego, CA)

Movement Tracking System: COMTECH (Germantown, MD)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

